

For Immediate Release

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Washington, DC – Today, the U.S. Department of Transportation announced the guidelines for the high speed rail grant program established in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. States and regions are eligible to apply for \$8 billion in competitive grants to fund high speed and intercity passenger rail projects.

“With this announcement, we are moving closer to achieving high speed passenger rail service in the most congested corridors in the country. Through this grant program, and other critical transportation initiatives, I am confident that we can transform the way people travel, and considerably improve their quality of life,” said Congressman Sires. “Those of us in the Northeast Corridor have already experienced the benefits high speed rail has to offer, and I am thrilled that this program will allow for further improvements in service and help to expand high speed rail to other areas. Investments in passenger rail mean fewer cars on the road and planes in the air, less pollution affecting our environment, and faster, more efficient travel,” stressed Congressman Sires.

Detailed information regarding the Department of Transportation’s grant application guidelines can be found at <http://www.fra.dot.gov/us/content/2243> .